

Mayor and City Council Agenda Item Request

Meeting Date: 6/3/2013

Type: Presentation

Call to Podium:

Educational Enrichment Committee Member (TBD) and Mary Canapary, Awardee

Agenda Item Title:

CHARACTER COUNTS! Person of Character Award

Responsible Staff and Department:

Shanthi Srinivasachar and Maureen Herndon, Community Services

Desired Outcome from Council:

Receive Presentation and Present Award

Public Hearing History	
Introduction Date:	
Advertisement Date :	
Public Hearing Date:	
Record Held Open Date:	
Policy Discussion Date:	
Anticipated Adoption Date:	

SUPPORTING BACKGROUND ON NEXT PAGE

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Supporting Background Information:

This evening we are pleased to recognize an outstanding citizen and community leader, Mary Canapary, with a Gaithersburg Person of Character Award.

The Person of Character Award recognizes individuals who consistently strive to exemplify the Six Pillars of Character. Recipients must either live or work within the incorporated City limits, with the community directly benefiting from their actions. These individuals are role models who live their lives guided by the CHARACTER COUNTS! pillars of Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring and Citizenship.

Mary Canapary has served residents of the City of Gaithersburg in an extraordinary way. As the volunteer Executive Director of the Gaithersburg Community Soup Kitchen, known as the Lord's Table, for more than 25 years, Mary's commitment and service has helped provide more than 16,000 hot, nutritious meals and services to the homeless and needy each year. She exemplifies the pillars of Caring and Citizenship as volunteer director of this valuable program, organizing 300 adult volunteers and many area youth groups to prepare and serve an average of 75 meals a day.

Mary is also an active member of the Gaithersburg Coalition of Providers and is committed to working with area nonprofits to provide resource information to guests at the soup kitchen. As her nominator stated, "Mary Canapary is a caring, compassionate, dedicated person who devotes most of her waking hours volunteering her time in an effort to enhance the lives of people who are less fortunate.... There are few who can match her commitment and contribution to the needs of our community!"

Congratulations, Mary, and thank you for being a wonderful role model of the pillars of CHARACTER COUNTS!